THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Consideration to convert BAJPE Airport to International Airport

282. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has announced recently at the time of inauguration of L.P.T. Station at Puttur of Dakshin Kannada of Karnataka that the foundation stone for international airport at BAJPE Mangalore will be laid in the month of February, 1997;

(b) whether Govemment have a proposal under consideration to convert present BAJPE Airport to international airport, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Govemment have sanctioned the airport; and

(d) if so, the total expenditure involved and the time by when the airport will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) Yes, Sir. However, no specific time frame was mentioned.

(b) to (d) The details of the proposal for upgradation of Bajpe Mangalore airport for international operations are being worked out.

Violation of guidelines by private airline operators

283. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether private airline operators are violating operating guidelines as safety norms rampantly;

(b) if so, details of such violations noticed/ reported to the Government authorities operator-wise;

(c) details of action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) details of action-plan worked out that guidelines (updated) for operations are to be strictly followed by private airline operators and safety norms strictly followed?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) to (c) Since 1996 there have been 7 serious violations of air safety norms by private airlines. Details are given in statement, *(see* below).

(d) steps are continuously taken to enhance the level of air safety, such as monitoring of flight recorders, conducting safety audit of operators, conducting safety seminars/meetings, carrying out spot checks on ground and in flight checks, implementation of recommendations emanating from investigation of aircraft accidents and hazardous incidents, etc.

Statement

Details of violation of air safety norms by private airlines since 1996

SI. No.	Operator	Date of violation	Details of violation	Action taken
1.	East West Airlines MESCO Airlines	2.1.1996	B-737 aircraft was involved in an incident at Bangalore wherein the aircraft landed with left main wheel off the rurway.	Pilot-in Command rating and Licence of Co-pilot was Licence of suspended.
2.		6.1.1996	Ecureuil helicopter was flown without valid flight release and night flying was undertaken without ATC service.	Licence of the Captain suspended and action initiated against the operator.

1	2	3	4	5
3.	MESCO Airlines	22.3.1996	Capt, of Airlines exercised the pri viledges of his licence after the expiry of his medical fitness certificate.	Licence of the Capt. was suspended for one month.
4.	MESCO Airlines	6.4.1996	A helicopter of the airline carried out leaflet dropping in violation of instruction	Action initiated against the operator.
5.	Skyline NEPC	9.9.1996	B-737 aircraft of the airline made a wrong approach for Tambaram while landing at Madras Airport.	Licence of the Capt. was suspended for 6 months.
6.	Skyline NEPC	28.11.96	An engineer of the airline released the flight without proper inspection of the landing gear. Consequently, the aircraft made emergency landing.	AME of the official was suspended.
7.	India International Airways	28.11.96	An engineer who was not authorised, certified the inspection of a Dornier aircraft.	AME licence of the official was suspended for 6 months.

New aviation policy

284. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK:
PROF. RAM KAPSE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment have a proposal to adopt new aviation policy;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) the date by when the new aviation policy is going to be adopted;

(d) how much foreign capital is expected to reach the domestic air travel as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CM. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) The salient features of the recently approved policy on domestic air transport services are given in the Statement (See below).

(e) the policy is effective from 24th January 1997.

(d) and (e) The modalities for permitting foreign equity and NRI equity participation in domestic air transport services sector are under formulation.

Statement

The main features of the recently approved policy framework for domestic air transport services are as follows:—

1. Barriers to entry and exit from this sector should be removed. There should only be a pre-entry scrutiny of applications to verify the financial